

THEY LIVE IN BOATS.

Hundreds of Families Float Up and Down the Great Rivers.

A Memphis writer introduces to the public a strange population who are counted as residents of that city, although most of them were born on the Mississippi or one of the streams emptying into it, and have never lived on dry land. The people occupy a floating settlement of house boats. The boats are sometimes named, and many of them are neatly painted and show signs of comfortable furnishings, judging from lace curtains at the windows and pictures to be seen hanging on the walls of the interior.

The colony is made up of representatives from twenty odd states drained by the Mississippi and its tributaries. Moored side by side one hundred and fifty boats were counted by the writer, who learned that some of the families began their navigation of the river as far north as Montana. It is not a fixed population, for, although most of the boats have been anchored at Memphis a long time, the absence of one of the families is noted now and then, and the inquirer is told that the head of the house has changed his habitat to New Orleans or some other river city.

The house-boat owner, of course, pays no rent. To escape it he took to the water. His food consists chiefly of fish, at catching which he is an adept. He knows better than anybody else where to find the cat, the buffalo, the perch and innumerable other fish. Driftwood serves him for fuel, and clothes, tobacco, spirits and a few necessities are secured by an occasional day's labor as a "longshoreman, roustabout or farm hand."

IN THE AZORES.

There is Romance to Be Found Hidden in Moody History.

In 1590 the Azores came under the power of Spain, and in the history of the next twenty years their name is frequent as the favorite battleground of the English and Spanish fleets. The partiality was, indeed, according to Macmillan's Magazine, mainly on the side of the former, and for a good reason. These islands lay right in the track of all vessels sailing to and from that enchanted region known then to all men as the Spanish Main. On the highest peak of Terceira, whence in clear weather the sea could be scanned for leagues around, were raised two columns, and by them a man watched night and day. When he saw any sails approaching from the west he set a flag upon the western column, one for each sail, if they came from the east a similar sign was set up on the eastern column.

Hither in those days came up out of the mysterious western seas the great galleons laden with gold and silver and jewels, with silks and spices and rare woods, wrung at the cost of thousands of harmless lives and countless unpayable from the fair lands which lie between the waters of the Caribbean sea and the giant wall of the Andes. And hither, when England, too, began to turn her eyes to El Dorado, came the great war galleons of Spain and Portugal to meet these precious cargoes and convey them safe to Lisbon or Cadiz before these terrible English sea wolves could get scent of the prize.

HEADS ARE BIGGER NOW.

Command of All Nations, Though Different, Are Enlarging Together.

It is interesting to observe how the shape of a man's head acts as an index to his nationality—that is, if you know how to consult the index. As a proof of this, notice how long and narrow the average American head is. Hats made in England will not fit such a head at all, the head being so long "and set off" as to make the hat too wide at the sides. With the German it is the reverse, if any difference. The head of a true Rhinelander is wide at the temples; if the hat is the exact length, in nine cases out of ten it has to be stretched sideways in order to make it fit. English heads are wide, but not so pronounced as those of the Germans. There is more of a "sliding scale" with them as to the relative length and breadth. The Celtic head is almost invariably round or oval, and without pronounced "bumps," or general smoothness of the cranial protuberance, the Italian comes next to the Celt, either of the two besting the classic Greeks in that respect. Odd as it may seem, anatomists declare that the Turkish skull is almost identical in shape, size, etc., with that of the enlightened nineteenth century inhabitant of the United States. Hat dealers, such as makers, furriers, etc., say that the heads of all nations are gradually growing larger. In 1860 the average hat used was 5 1/2; to-day it is 7 1/4.

CAT AND WEASEL.

Funny Began the Fight, But Gave It Up as a Bad Job.

Puss had been watching a wheat attack which yields her toll of a rat per night, and one evening a weasel made some inquiries.

By and by the weasel, in the pursuit of a rat, popped out of a hole under the stack, and puss instantly pounced upon it, and caught it, happily enough for her, round the neck.

Somewhat dubious, it would appear, as to what manner of rat she had in her mouth, she brought it into the house, half throttled, and began mewing loudly. Presently the weasel revived, and began to move away, puss instantly following in pursuit; but she had caught a tartar.

The little creature, with wide-open mouth, and uttering a sharp, repeated sound, like "kek, kek, kek," sprang straight at puss's nose, just missing it, and this she did again and again. Its fury was unbounded, and it was totally fearless.

Sometimes puss only saved herself by a high jump and had to retreat, the weasel viciously following, once cornering puss and forcing her to take a high arched spring.

For several minutes the fight went on until puss was fairly frightened into retreat. The weasel was apparently about one-twentieth of the cat's size, but its viciousness and courage were beyond comparison.

Emigration of Jews from Russia.

A definite agreement is reported to have at last been concluded between Baron Hirsch and the Russian government concerning the emigration of Jews from Russia. The baron undertakes and the Russian government consents to have three and a half millions of Jews taken to other countries within twenty-five years, or 100,000 a year. The government has reserved the right of an absolute control over the operations of the emigration scheme. The

number of emigrants shall increase from year to year. In the present year 25,000 shall emigrate, the number to increase as the preparations by the baron grow more efficacious. He will establish emigration bureaus all over the Russian empire, to be controlled by a central bureau at St. Petersburg. The emigrant Jews must be Russian subjects and are not bound to become soldiers in Russia or to pay for exemption from that duty. A guarantee of 100,000 rubles must be placed in the hands of the Russian government to be used to pay for expenses that might be caused by any of the emigrants going back to Russia.

ROUSED TO LYNCHING PITCH.

A Car Load of Sympathetic Passengers

Assured by a Heavily Armed Force.

The poor little woman was traveling from Baltimore to Chicago on the B. & O., with six small children. Three of them were ill and she had her hands and lap more than full. Everyone in the car tried throughout the day to do what they could to alleviate her sufferings. A kindly old gentleman played with the not too inviting two-year-old, and a jolly commercial traveler kept the wiggling and inquisitive oldest boy as quiet as possible with stories of his own boys at home. Dainty ladies opened well-stocked traveling bags to show the necessities of the little brood, and Kate Field's Washington says, the traveling public seemed disposed to show its utmost kindness to the overburdened woman. The only person who showed no interest was an insignificant, snub-nosed little man who sat in the back of the car and read newspapers. At last bedtime came and the porter made up a couple of sections in which the tired mother might bestow her offspring. When they were safely settled the passengers were rendered almost speechless by the conduct of the little snub-nosed man, who skulked down the aisle and crawled into the berth where the woman was hushing a wailing child. When it dawned upon them that he was the husband and father of their proteges it took all the persuasion of the cooler headed to prevent an immediate mobbing.

A LIVING TARGET.

The Strange Manner in Which a Negro Earns His Living.

There are all sorts of ways of earning one's living, but I doubt, says a writer in Kate Field's Washington, if one could find an occupation hedged about with more danger or calculated to keep the nerves strung at a higher pitch than that affording support to a son of Ham at Bethesda park. The courageous negro utilizes his good-natured face to form the disc of a sunflower, at which a certain number of shots can be fired with the hardest kind of a ball for a stipulated sum. Drawn by the sign, "Hit the Nigger," crowds are attracted to the place, and people impatiently wait in line their turn to try their skill, while the ducky—apparently unmoved by the discomfort of the sport—keeps up a counter fire of mirth-provoking banter at the poor success of the patrons. The flower is painted on a large canvas representing a garden scene, behind which the man stands at a distance of about forty feet from the ball throwers. Some degree of protection is afforded the fellow by a wire netting which he is allowed to pull over his face as soon as he sees the ball fly from a person's hand. The slightest hesitation on his part, however, would result in a general smash-up.

Champion Stinginess.

One of the worst stories of extreme parsimony on record comes from Uniontown. A young man from that place in the city yesterday said that some time ago he wrote to a wealthy citizen of Green county who owned land in Uniontown, asking him for his price on a lot. In a few days he received a reply in a curious looking envelope. He examined it carefully and found that the envelope was turned inside out. Making a closer inspection he discovered that it was the one he had sent the Green county man. Since then he has had several of his envelopes returned in the same way. The Green county citizen was too stingy to buy envelopes, though worth not less than fifteen thousand dollars. The Uniontown man remarked that it was not much wonder that some people got rich. He added that it was a pity there was a law against using postage stamps the second time.

Pure and Wholesome Quality.

Commends to public approval the California liquid laxative remedy, Syrup of Figs. It is pleasant to the taste and by acting gently on the kidneys, liver and bowels to cleanse the system effectually it promotes the health and comfort of all who use it, and with millions it is the best and only remedy.

AGONIZING ECZEMA.

Awful Suffering. Driven Almost Insane by Doctors. Tried Cuticura. Relief Immediate. Entirely Cured in 4 Months.

I suffered with the dreadful eczema for over six months, during which time I had consulted three doctors, and this tormenting skin disease had driven me to the verge of insanity. My condition was unbearable. My legs were swollen, my arms were raw, my face and neck full of eruptions, which made me scratch until my cheeks were raw and my eyes were sore. I could hardly bear my clothing. When night came I was afraid to go to bed, so sleep would come to me only in fits and starts. During the time I had no rest, I was all broken down, and I was unable to do any work. At that time I read about the Cuticura Remedies, intended to try them, and dropped the doctors. After applying Cuticura I had the first night's rest for several weeks. Using the Cuticura, Cuticura Soap, and Cuticura Ointment, with proper judgment, my condition improved slowly but surely day by day, until after three to four months use of them I was cured. My minister, Rev. J. G. Purvitt, in Mendon, Mass., and his wife, Mrs. J. G. Purvitt, are now well and healthy, and have written me to this effect: "I have written to him and he will certify to the truth of this statement."

E. K. STEINBRUCK, Mendon, North Dakota.

Cuticura Resolvent.

The new blood and skin purifier and greatest of Human Remedies, internally cleanses the blood of all impurities and poisonous elements, while Cuticura, the great skin cure, and Cuticura Soap, an exquisite skin purifier and beautifier, externally, clear the skin of every trace of disease.

Sold everywhere. Price, Cuticura, 25c. Box, 50c. Resolvent, 50c. Prepared by the FORTY-ONE AND CHEMICAL COMBINATION, Boston. See "How to Cure Skin Diseases," 24 pages, 25 illustrations, and testimonials, mailed free.

PINK PILLS, blood-purifier, red, rough, chapped, and dry skin cured by CUTICURA SOAP.

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RACES!

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